

## Passings

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We remember here three members of the Cummings Society who have recently (as Cummings sang of Sam Ward) “gone into what.” A fuller recognition of their contributions to life (and to the life of the Cummings world) will appear in our next issue.

### **Yasuo Fujitomi** (15 August 1928 - 1 September 2017)

Yasuo Fujitomi was a poet, and the foremost translator of E. E. Cummings into Japanese. He corresponded with Cummings and Marion and recorded his memories in an article in *Spring* 5 (1996), “The Passing of Cummings and Marion.” He also published a translation of “& sun &” in *Spring* 10 (2001).

### **Bethany K. Dumas** (1937-2021)

Bethany Dumas was the author of *E. E. Cummings: A Remembrance of Miracles* (New York: Barnes and Noble, 1974). At the 2019 Louisville Conference on Literature & Culture since 1900, she presented “E. E. Cummings: Poetic Devices and the Poetics of Self.” After retiring from the University of Tennessee, she continued her second career as a forensic linguist.

### **Gerald Locklin** (17 February 1941— 17 January 2021)

Poet, teacher, and mentor to many students, Gerald Locklin died from coronavirus-related complications in January 2021, one month shy of his 80th birthday. In an obituary in the [\*Long Beach Press-Telegram\*](#), Rich Archbold says that “Locklin was known for his direct, straight-forward style of writing, with humor and playfulness and emphasis on the human condition. But, above all else, his encouragement of young people and their writing talent is what Long Beach literary leaders were talking about Monday.” Readers of *Spring* will remember many wry and biting Locklin poems that appeared in these pages over the years, not the least of which is published in this issue, a kind of *ars poetica* called, “My Grand-Pop and His Progeny” (115-116).